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# METHOD, SYSTEM, AND PROGRAM FOR RECONFIGURING LOGICAL PRINTERS IN A NETWORK PRINTING SYSTEM

## CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is related to the co-pending and commonly-assigned patent application, having U.S. serial number 09/457,150, filed on the same date herewith, entitled "Method, System, Program, and Data Structures For Reconfiguring Output Devices in a Network System," having attorney docket no. BO9-99-010, and which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

## BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

### 1. Field of the Invention

The present invention relates to a method, system, and program for reconfiguring a printer object in a network printing system.

### 2. Description of the Related Art

Network printing systems generally comprise an assemblage of different printers, client computers, servers, and other components connected over a network. A network administrator or user may want to monitor the status of print jobs being printed or the general operational status of the printer. A computer may monitor a remote printer over a network using a network protocol, such as SNMP or TCP/IP, or a line connection such as a parallel port connection.

In a Microsoft Windows NT environment, a client application interfaces with a printer object, also known as a logical printer. The printer object is a software interface to which a driver, output port, and configuration settings are associated. The port provides an interface to a physical printer, which may be a serial, parallel, or network printer. One printer object can be associated with multiple ports. In such case, when submitting a print job to a print object with multiple ports, one of the ports is selected to handle the job.